

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A graphical user interface ~~for specifying a search query for searching a set of information items, the information items each having a set of characterising information features, the interface comprising:~~

a graphical display configured to display images representing user-selected query information that forms a search query and to display results of a search of a set of information items based on the search query;

an input device configured to enable a user to populate a plurality of fields and to describe a search relationship among the user-selected query information represented by the plurality of fields, each field being populated by user selection of an image representative of a different information item, each information item specifying a characterizing information feature as the user-selected query information of the field; and

a search processor configured to search the set of information items differently based on the characterizing information feature selected as the query information for a field, wherein

the set of information items is used to form a set of feature vectors, and the set of information items includes

data representative of one or more video images, and/or  
data representative of audio signals  
~~rows of fields, each of the fields providing a facility for selecting information items from the set of information items, each row defining a search condition for forming a search~~

~~query, in accordance with a different type of characterising information feature associated with said row.~~

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A graphical user interface as claimed in Claim 24, wherein ~~a plurality of information items may be selected for each row, and if more than one information feature is provided in each row, then the conditions for the search query are combined in accordance with user specified Boolean operators the relationship between the plurality of fields is described with one or more Boolean operators.~~

Claims 26-32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (New): A computer-readable medium having processor-readable instructions stored therein that, when executed by a processor, provide a graphical user interface performing steps of:

displaying images representing user-selected query information that forms a search query and displaying results of a search of a set of information items based on the search query;

enabling a user to populate a plurality of fields and to describe a search relationship among the query information represented by the plurality of fields, each field being populated by user selection of an image representative of a different information item, each information item specifying a characterizing information feature as the user-selected query information of the field; and

searching the set of information items differently based on the characterizing information feature selected as the user-selected query information for a field, wherein

the set of information items is used to form a set of feature vectors, and the set of information items includes

data representative of one or more video images, and/or  
data representative of audio signals.

Claim 34 (New): A graphical user interface as claimed in Claims 24, wherein a composite feature vector is formed from a combination of color histograms of the representative images selected as user-selected query information, and the search is performed by determining a Euclidean distance between the composite feature vector and respective feature vectors of the set of information items.

Claim 35 (New): A graphical user interface as claimed in Claim 34, wherein the set of information items is organized in a self organizing map and the graphical user interface displays the results of the search by the search processor, which searches the set of information items in accordance with the search query to identify information items by determining one or more closest nodes of the self-organizing map to a two-dimensional array corresponding to the composite feature vector and returning information items within a predetermined distance of the one or more closest nodes, and

the graphical user interface displays a representation of at least some of the identified information items in accordance with data generated by a mapping processor, the data being representative of a map of the information items from the set of information items identified in the search, the map providing the identified information items with respect to positions in an array in accordance with a mutual similarity of the information items, similar information items mapping to similar positions in the array.

Claim 36 (New): A graphical user interface as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the graphical user interface is arranged to display a representation of information items identified by the search processor in response to the search query, and, in response to a user control to select one or more of the information items identified by the processor, the selected information items being used by the search processor to refine the search to identify information items relating to the selected information item.

Claim 37 (New): A graphical user interface as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the user selected representative images are representative key stamps.